Population of Primitive Tribal Groups

1980. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) population in the country; and

(b) the efforts made for the upliftment of the Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) and progress made in relation to development of these groups?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The population of Primitive Tribal Groups, according to the 1991 Census, was 2,412,664.

(b) Various schemes/programmes in the sectors of agriculture, animal husbandry, small scale and cottage industry, education, health, drinking water, etc. for the upliftment of the Primitive Tribal Groups under the strategy of Tribal Sub-Plan are being implemented since the Fifth Five Year Plan. From the year 1998-99 an exclusive Central Sector Scheme for the Development of Primitive Tribal Groups has been in operation, under which the following grants are released to the States/UTs and NGOs during the last four years:

Year	Amount released (Rs. in crore)
1998-1999	4.94
1999-2000	6.63
2000-2001	10.71
2001-2002	14.18

In order to ensure better targetting and utilizations of funds, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been asked to conduct a base line survey of the Primitive Tribal Groups in their jurisdiction.

Restoration of tribal land encroached by non-tribals

1981. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have prepared any action plan to restore

to tribals their land that had been encroached upon or acquired fraudulently by non-tribals across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the fresh stringent steps taken by Government to protect tribal land and to ensure that it could not be transferred to a non-tribal in the Scheduled Areas?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (d) "Land" being a State subject, most of the State Governments have enacted laws for prevention of alienation of tribal land. Moreover, the Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 4601-4602/96 had upheld restrictions on the transfer of tribal land. Relevant extracts of the judgment have been circulated to the States for compliance.

Tribals killed in police firing in Wayanad

1982. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals were killed and many injured in the firing by police on 19th February, 2003 at Wayanad Wild Life Sanctuary, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the competent authority failed to Keep its promise to provide land to all landless tribals before 31st December, 2002;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether a judicial inquiry will be initiated on police firing and all the aspects related to it; and

(f) whether the National Commission for SCs and STs will initiate an inquiry on policy firing and all the happenings that has affected the tribals at Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad District?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One tribal was killed and four other tribals were injured in the police firing on 19.02.2003 during an operation launched by the District authorities, Wayanad, for eviction of a large number of activists